

California MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

NOTICES & REPORTS

Council Meeting Minutes

Tentative Draft: Minutes of the 436th Meeting of the Council, San Francisco, St. Francis Hotel, June 7, 1958.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lum in the Georgian Room of the St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, on Saturday, June 7, 1958 at 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call:

Present were President West, President-Elect Reynolds, Speaker Doyle, Secretary Daniels, Editor Wilbur and Councilors MacLaggan, Wheeler, Todd, O'Neill, Kirchner, O'Connor, Shaw, Pearman, Harrington, Davis, Sherman, Lum, Bostick and Teall.

Absent for cause, Vice-Speaker Heron, Councilor Foster.

A quorum present and acting.

Present by invitation were Messrs. Hunton, Thomas, Clancy, Gillette, Whelan and Collins of C.M.A. staff; Messrs. Hassard and Huber of legal counsel; Doctor W. E. Batchelder; Eugene Salisbury of the Public Health League of California; county society executives Scheuber of Alameda-Contra Costa, Rosenow of Los Angeles, Pettis of Los Angeles, Field of Los Angeles, Bannister of Orange, Marvin of Riverside, Foster of Sacramento, Donmyer of San Bernardino, Nute of San Diego, Neick of San Francisco, Thompson of San Joaquin, Wood of San Mateo and Donovan of Santa Clara; Doctors A. E. Larsen and William Gardenier and Messrs. Paolini and Wahlberg of California Physicians' Service; William Rogers of the California Academy of General Practice; Doctor Malcolm Merrill, State Director of Public Health; Doctor Marshall Porter, State Director of Mental Hygiene; Doctors Malcolm Watts, David A. Wood, Jay Ward Smith, Thomas Elmendorf and Oscar Railsback, and others.

1. Minutes for Approval:

(a) On motion duly made and seconded, minutes of the 434th meeting of the Council, held April 26 to April 30, 1958, were approved.

(b) On motion duly made and seconded, minutes of the 435th meeting of the Council, held April 30, 1958, were approved.

2. Membership:

(a) A report of membership as of June 5, 1958, was presented and ordered filed.

(b) On motion duly made and seconded, 293 delinquent members whose dues had been received were voted reinstatements.

(c) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, 19 applicants were voted Associate Membership. These were: Jean Dehlinger, James O. Gillespie, Alameda-Contra Costa County; Donald E. Burdick, Paul Burt Kinney, Hazel W. Krause, Leonard M. Linde, Charles H. Markham, Edmund L. Sherwood, George X. Trimble, Los Angeles County; Mary Jaros, Marin County; Gerald S. Barker, Napa County; Frank R. Lemon, San Bernardino County; T. L. Althausen, Jr., David P. Brown, William D. Byrne, Roland Levy, San Fran-

FRANCIS E. WEST, M.D. President
T. ERIC REYNOLDS, M.D. President-Elect
JAMES C. DOYLE, M.D. Speaker
J. NORMAN O'NEILL, M.D. Vice-Speaker
DONALD D. LUM, M.D. Council Chairman
ALBERT C. DANIELS, M.D. Secretary-Treasurer
IVAN C. HERON, M.D. Chairman, Executive Committee
DWIGHT L. WILBUR, M.D. Editor
JOHN HUNTON Executive Secretary
General Office, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco 8

ED CLANCY Director of Public Relations
Southern California Office:
2975 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles 5 • DUnkirk 5-2341

cisco County; Duane Deakins, San Joaquin County; Clifford Walker, San Luis Obispo County; E. Wylda Hammond, Sonoma County.

(d) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, 12 applicants were voted Retired Membership. These were: V. L. Andrews, Hiram Gallagher, Glen E. Glasgow, Dean E. Godwin, August H. Larson, Daniel D. Lucey, James R. Martin, Solomon Strouse, Howard F. West, Los Angeles County; Alfred Newman, San Francisco County; Marshall L. Carter, Leon Melkonian, Santa Clara County.

(e) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, 18 members were voted a reduction of dues because of illness or postgraduate study.

3. *Financial:*

(a) A report of bank balances as of June 5, 1958, was presented and ordered filed.

(b) A report of income and expenditures for May and for the 11 months ended May 31, 1958, was presented and ordered filed.

(c) On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to purchase, provided a suitable discount could be secured, a contract in the face amount of \$80,000 issued by a blood bank in California to a physician. A vote of three-fourths was noted and the Finance Committee was authorized to negotiate for the purchase of this obligation.

4. *House of Delegates Resolutions:*

(a) The Council considered a series of resolutions referred to the Council by the 1958 House of Delegates for further study. These were:

Resolution No. 18. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the resolution and refer it to a special committee chairmanned by Doctor West and to the California Delegates to the American Medical Association.

Resolution No. 23. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to refer this matter to the Committee on Public Relations.

Resolution No. 42. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to refer this matter to Doctor West's committee.

Resolution No. 48. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to adopt this resolution.

Resolution No. 63. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to delete the section of the resolution referring to the Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association and to adopt the resolution in this amended form.

(b) The Council considered a series of resolutions adopted by the 1958 House of Delegates but requiring Council consideration and/or action. On motion duly made and seconded in each instance,

the Council took the following actions on these resolutions:

Resolution No. 1—Referred to Committee on Legislation.

Resolution No. 3—Referred to Committee on Legislation.

Resolution No. 9—Request county societies to offer their committee services in third party cases.

Resolution No. 31—Referred to Commission on Professional Welfare.

Resolution No. 32—Referred to Committee on Public Relations.

Resolution No. 34—Voted to allow a per diem of \$100 to the President and President-Elect while on official business, provided a \$10,000 annual maximum would prevail.

Resolution No. 40—Referred to Committee on Legislation.

Resolution No. 52—Referred to Committee on Legislation, with instructions for the committee to confer with the State Department of Motor Vehicles.

Resolution No. 58—Accept and approve the first two sections of the resolution and refer the third section to the Committee on Public Relations.

Resolution No. 59—No action needed, since the requirements of the resolution have already been met.

Resolution No. 62—Referred to Commission on Medical Services for study.

Resolution No. 67—Referred to Committee on Legislation.

5. *Commission on Medical Services:*

(a) Doctor Harrington reported that the Liaison Committee to the State Department of Social Welfare will meet soon with that department. In this connection he gave a progress report on the preferences of members as to methods of payment preferred under the Public Welfare Assistance Act.

(b) Doctor Harrington reported that hearings will soon be held by the Senate Interim Committee on Social Welfare. It was agreed that Doctor West should represent the Association in presenting its attitude toward the Public Welfare Assistance Act and that Doctor Harrington and representatives of California Physicians' Service should attend as technical advisors.

(c) Chairman Lum read a letter from a member of a county medical society which was critical of the actions of Doctor Harrington as chairman of the Liaison Committee and Doctor Dan O. Kilroy as chairman of the Committee on Legislation. The chairman also read letters received from several other county societies which expressed confidence in and commendation of these two committee chairmen. On motion duly made and seconded, it was

voted to reaffirm the confidence of the Council in Doctors Harrington and Kilroy and to commend them for their valuable services in behalf of the Association, and to advise all county medical societies to this effect.

(d) Doctor Harrington suggested that the work of the Liaison Committee and of the Committee on Indigent and Aged were somewhat parallel and that Doctor Thomas Elmendorf, chairman of the Committee on Indigent and Aged, be added as a member of the Liaison Committee. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to appoint Doctor Elmendorf as a member of the Liaison Committee.

6. *Commission on Medical Education:*

Doctor Daniels reported on a meeting of the Committee on Scientific Work, at which it was decided that postgraduate courses, using faculties from University of California and Stanford, would be given at the 1959 Annual Session. The committee also discussed the possibility of rearranging the general sessions so as to eliminate clinical-pathological conferences, and substitute sessions on socio-economic topics. The committee plans to confer with the Medical Review and Advisory Board on this proposal.

7. *Commission on Public Health and Public Agencies:*

Doctor MacLaggan reported that the Committee on Allied Health Agencies had met and discussed the feasibility of providing for approval of voluntary health agencies. He stated that further study would be given to this subject.

8. *Commission on Public Policy:*

(a) Mr. Eugene Salisbury of the Public Health League of California reported that a proposal was now before the Congress to provide that medical services for dependents of military personnel be provided only in military installations.

(b) Doctor Malcolm Watts, chairman of the Committee on Public Relations, reported that the committee was planning meetings to start in September. This committee was given several items for study during the Council's discussion of House of Delegates actions.

9. *Committee Appointments:*

(a) Doctor Bostick requested clarification of the status of the Committee on Committees. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to continue this committee as a standing committee of the Council.

(b) On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to reappoint Doctor Donald A. Charnock as a member and chairman of the Judicial Commission.

(c) Doctor Bostick was requested to bring nominations to the Council for appointment to the Committee on Adoptions, which is to be reactivated.

10. *Foreign Medical School Graduates:*

Doctor William A. Winn of Tulare County, medical director of the Tulare-Kings County Hospital, reported a need for medical graduates who could be trained in tuberculosis work and suggested that some form of temporary licensure be evolved to permit graduates of foreign medical schools to serve in tuberculosis hospitals in clinical medical capacities while being trained. On motion duly made and seconded it was voted to refer this request to the State Board of Medical Examiners and the deans of the medical schools.

11. *Commission on Professional Welfare:*

Doctor Arthur A. Kirchner, chairman of the Medical Review and Advisory Board, reported on the anticipated completion in July of a study being made on professional liability cases in hospitals. The committee may wish to publish this study, he stated.

Mr. Whelan reported progress in the establishment of panels of physicians in San Diego, San Francisco and Alameda Counties to serve as consultants in professional liability cases.

12. *Commission on Medical Services:*

Doctor Frank J. Cox, representing the Committee on Fees, suggested that the original format of the Relative Value Study be utilized in resurveying this study. He also asked that the county societies be asked to cooperate, with the expectation that county returns could be made available to the societies. In view of the expanded nature of the resurvey, it was regularly moved, seconded and voted by a three-fourths vote to appropriate an additional \$4,000 for this project, and to make the total cost \$10,000.

Doctor Cox also requested the members of the Council to advise the county societies in their areas on the impending resurvey of the Relative Value Study and to solicit their cooperation.

13. *State Department of Public Health:*

Doctor Malcolm H. Merrill, State Director of Public Health, reported that there was a current upswing in the incidence of paralytic poliomyelitis, a seasonal expectation, and stated that his department was still anxious that vaccine be given to all citizens to age 40.

Doctor Merrill also reported that the mosquito density in selected areas is being studied in advance of the encephalitis season. The department has also issued regulations for the use of nalline in determining narcotics addiction and is currently working on strengthening the area control of rabies.

Some increase over the current \$5,200,000 annual federal appropriation for Hill-Burton hospital construction funds is expected, Doctor Merrill said.

14. *State Department of Mental Hygiene:*

Doctor Marshall Porter, State Director of Mental Hygiene, reported on the need of further studies and research on alcoholism. He also reported that community mental health centers established under terms of the Short-Doyle Act are progressing slowly but smoothly.

Doctor Porter also reported that the 1958-1959 budget for his department totals about \$102,000,000, an increase of some \$7,000,000 over the current fiscal year. The additional funds will be used, he said, for training of physicians in psychiatry, for additional supplies of drugs and for other professional purposes.

15. *Legal Department:*

Mr. Hassard reported that a case decided in the Superior Court, holding that a district hospital had the right to maintain proper standards for naming staff members, had been appealed by the plaintiff, a physician denied such staff membership.

Mr. Hassard also reported that an appeals court had upheld the conviction in a lower court of a practitioner in another profession who had been found guilty of aiding and abetting the unlawful practice of his profession by associating with himself and delegating duties to a practitioner of a third profession whose license did not permit him to carry out such practices.

On motion duly made and seconded, with a three-fourths vote noted, it was voted to share expenses, up to a maximum of \$3,000, with a component medical society in an organizational matter involving questions of statewide significance.

16. *California Physicians' Service:*

Mr. Etchel Paolini reported for California Physicians' Service that 185,943 claims had been processed in May on the public welfare assistance program.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that no objection would be raised to the proposal that California Physicians' Service offer a pre-payment plan to the authorities of a county for the establishment of a program of medical care for indigents.

17. *Time and Place of Next Meeting:*

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council be set for Saturday, July 12, 1958, in Los Angeles.

DONALD D. LUM, M.D., *Chairman*
ALBERT C. DANIELS, M.D., *Secretary*

A.M.A. House of Delegates

This summary of actions of the American Medical Association's 107th Annual Meeting, held June 23 to 27, 1958 in San Francisco, covers only a few of the many important subjects dealt with by the House of Delegates and is not intended as a detailed report of all actions taken.

THE UNITED MINE WORKERS of America Welfare and Retirement Fund, Social Security coverage for self-employed physicians, relations with voluntary health organizations, veterans' medical care, the Medicare program, the Association's Washington Office and over-all legislative system, the medical aspects of hypnosis and the advertising of over-the-counter medications were among the variety of subjects acted upon by the House of Delegates at the American Medical Association's 107th Annual Meeting held June 23-27 in San Francisco.

Dr. Louis M. Orr, urologist of Orlando, Fla., was chosen unanimously as president-elect for the coming year. Dr. Orr, who in recent years has been vice speaker of the House of Delegates and chairman of the A.M.A. Committee on Federal Medical Services, will become president of the American Medical Association at the June, 1959, meeting in Atlantic City. He then will succeed Dr. Gunnar Gundersen of La Crosse, Wis., who became the 112th president at the Tuesday night inaugural ceremony in the Rose and Concert Rooms of the Sheraton-Palace Hotel.

The 1958 Distinguished Service Award of the American Medical Association was voted to Dr. Frank Hammond Krusen, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Mayo Foundation, Rochester, Minn., for his outstanding achievements and contributions in the field of physical medicine and rehabilitation. For only the fourth and fifth times in A.M.A. history, the House also approved special citations to laymen for outstanding service in advancing the ideals of medicine and contributing to the public welfare. Recipients of these awards were Mrs. Charles W. Sewell of Otterbein, Ind., who has spent 45 years in rural health work, and Gobind Behari Lal, Ph.D., distinguished science writer and Pulitzer prize winner.

UNITED MINE WORKERS

Major discussion of relations between medicine and the UMWA Welfare and Retirement Fund centered on a reference committee report which concurred in a Board of Trustees opinion that final action on two resolutions adopted in December, 1957, should be postponed until the final report of the Commission on Medical Care Plans is received.

One of those resolutions, Number 20, declared that "a broad educational program be instituted at

once by the American Medical Association to inform the general public, including the beneficiaries of the Fund, concerning the benefits to be derived from preservation of the American right to freedom of choice of physicians and hospitals as well as observance of the 'Guides to Relationships Between State and County Medical Societies and the UMWA Welfare and Retirement Fund' adopted by this House last June." The other resolution, Number 24, called for the appropriate A.M.A. committee or council to engage in conferences with third parties to develop general principles and policies which may be applied to their relationships with members of the medical profession.

In explaining its position that final action on the two resolutions should be taken only after proper study, the reference committee said it "anticipates that the final report of the Commission on Medical Care Plans will contain recommendations serving to clarify the relationships between the medical profession, the patient and third parties, and the committee has been assured that this can be expected." The committee also urged the Commission to present its recommendations no later than December, 1958.

The House of Delegates, however, by a vote of 110 to 72, adopted a floor amendment "that this section of the Reference Committee report be amended to show that our A.M.A. Headquarters Staff is directed, under supervision of the Board of Trustees, to proceed immediately with the campaign which was originally ordered at Philadelphia last December, that no further delays will be tolerated, and that the Council on Medical Service be relieved of any further responsibility in this matter."

SOCIAL SECURITY COVERAGE

In considering seven resolutions dealing with the inclusion of self-employed physicians under the Social Security Act, the House disapproved of three which called for polls or a referendum of the A.M.A. membership, one which favored state-by-state participation in Social Security, and two which called for compulsory inclusion on a national basis. Instead, the House adopted a resolution pointing out that "American physicians always have stood on the principle of security through personal initiative," and reaffirming unequivocal opposition to the compulsory inclusion of self-employed physicians in the Social Security system.

On the question of polls, the House expressed the opinion that any poll should be taken on a state-by-state basis and the results transmitted to the A.M.A. delegates from that state. It also pointed out that since there is no provision in the Constitution and By-Laws for a referendum of members, such a refer-

endum would usurp the duties and prerogatives of the House of Delegates, which is the Association's policy-making body.

VOLUNTARY HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS

Dealing with problems that have arisen in the raising and distributing of funds since development of the concept of united community effort, the House adopted the following statement offered in the form of amendments from the floor:

"1. That the House of Delegates reiterate its commendation and approval of the principal voluntary health agencies.

"2. That it is the firm belief of the American Medical Association that these agencies should be free to conduct their own programs of research, public and professional education and fund raising in their particular spheres of interest.

"3. That the House of Delegates respectfully requests that the American Medical Research Foundation take no action which would endanger the constructive activities of the national voluntary health agencies.

"4. That the Board of Trustees continue actively its studies of these perplexing problems looking forward to their ultimate solution."

VETERANS' MEDICAL CARE

Pointing out that the Federal government spent \$619,614,000 on hospitalized medical care of veterans in VA hospitals in 1957, of which about 75 per cent had non-service-connected disabilities, and that ways and means of obtaining economy in Federal government are allegedly being sought by Congress at this time, the House urged Congressional action to restrict hospitalization of veterans at VA hospitals to those with service-connected disabilities. It also recommended that the American Medical Association suggest to the Dean's Committees that they restrict their activities to Veterans Administration hospitals admitting only patients with service-connected disabilities.

THE MEDICARE PROGRAM

In disapproving a resolution calling for repeal, modification or amendment of Public Law 569, the House took the position that desired changes in the Medicare program could be accomplished through modification of the present implementing directives without the necessity for new legislation. The House reaffirmed the action taken last year in New York recommending that the decision on type of contract and whether or not a fee schedule is included in future contract negotiations should be left to indi-

vidual state determination. Also reaffirmed was the Association's basic contention that the Dependent Medical Care Act as enacted by Congress does not require fixed fee schedules; the establishment of such schedules would be more expensive than permitting physicians to charge their normal fees, and fixed fee schedules would ultimately disrupt the economics of medical practice.

WASHINGTON OFFICE

The House adopted a resolution requesting the Board of Trustees to make an immediate survey and re-evaluation of "the functions and effectiveness of the over-all A.M.A. legislative system, including the Washington office, in the light of present-day needs of the government, public and medical profession alike for effective liaison between government and medicine on all matters affecting the public's health and adequate, prompt and accurate transmittal to the full membership of the A.M.A. of information on all current public issues in which the physician has a direct interest." The House asked that the Board of Trustees implement, as rapidly as possible, all changes and additions that its survey discloses are desirable to achieve the basic purpose of the resolution, "effective public and government relations."

MEDICAL ASPECTS OF HYPNOSIS

A Council on Mental Health report on "Medical Use of Hypnosis" was approved by the House, which recommended that it be published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* with bibliography attached. The report stated that general practitioners, medical specialists and dentists might find hypnosis valuable as a therapeutic adjunct within the specific field of their professional competence. It stressed, however, that all those who use hypnosis need to be aware of the complex nature of the phenomena involved. Teaching related to hypnosis should be under responsible medical or dental direction, the report emphasized, and should include the indications and limitations for its use. The report urged physicians and dentists to participate in high level research on hypnosis, and it vigorously condemned the use of hypnosis for entertainment purposes.

OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS

The House endorsed recommendations by the Public Relations Department that:

The A.M.A. join with other interested groups in setting up an expanded voluntary program, coordinated by the National Better Business Bureau, which will seek to eliminate objectionable advertising of over-the-counter medicines.

The A.M.A. consult with the National Better Business Bureau in the selection of a physicians' advisory committee.

The established facilities of the A.M.A., such as the Chemical Laboratory, the offices of the various scientific councils, and the Bureau of Investigation, be made available, so far as is feasible, to aid in the carrying out of this program.

The Public Relations Department continue its liaison work with the various groups involved and assist in the development and operation of this program in any way possible.

The A.M.A. become a sustaining member of the National Better Business Bureau, giving evidence of its willingness and desire to support this organization in its worthwhile activities.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS

Among a wide variety of actions on many subjects, the House also:

Adopted amendments to the **Constitution and Bylaws** which eliminate the separate offices of Secretary and Treasurer, combining them into one, and which change the titles of the General Manager and Assistant General Manager to Executive Vice President and Assistant Executive Vice President;

Recommended the appointment of a Committee on **Atomic Medicine** and Ionizing Radiation and suggested that it concern itself with informing the American public on all phases of radiation hazards related to the national health;

Approved in principle the admission of the **Virgin Islands Medical Society** as a constituent society of the American Medical Association;

Commended the **Federal Food and Drug Administration** for its untiring efforts in behalf of the public and the profession, and urged all states to review and strengthen their food and drug laws;

Approved the "Suggested Guides for the Organization and Operation of Medical Society **Committees on Aging**," submitted by the Council on Medical Service;

Recommended the Committee on Medical and Related Facilities of the Council on Medical Service for its report on the **Hill-Burton** Study and approved its recommendations;

Requested that any funds provided under the Public Assistance provisions of the Social Security Act for medical care of the indigent be administered by a voluntary agency such as Blue Shield on a cost plus basis or by a specific agency established by the medical society of the state in which indigent care is rendered;

Directed the Board of Trustees to study problems pertaining to licensure by reciprocity and to consult

with the Federation of State Medical Boards in an attempt to find a satisfactory solution;

Urged all members of the House of Delegates to give full consideration to the preliminary report of the Committee on Preparation for General Practice and to submit comments and suggestions to that committee;

Expressed the opinion that some operating room experience is valuable and necessary training for all nurses;

Recommended that general hospitals, wherever feasible, be encouraged to permit the hospitalization of suitable psychiatric patients, and

Approved a National Interprofessional Code for physicians and attorneys prepared by the joint liaison committee of the American Medical Association and the American Bar Association.

OPENING SESSION

At the Monday opening session Dr. David B. Allman, retiring A.M.A. president, urged every physician to rededicate himself to the service of mankind and every medical society to strengthen its disciplinary system "to prevent the very few from besmirching the vast majority of us." Dr. Gunderesen, then president-elect, said the Association is moving ahead in finding the best possible ways to serve both the public and the medical profession, and he declared there is no reason to believe that its influence and impact will not continue to grow in the times ahead. The Goldberger Award in clinical nutrition was presented to Dr. Virgil P. Sydenstricker, professor emeritus of medicine at the Medical College of Georgia.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Dr. Gunderesen, in his Tuesday night inaugural address, called upon the medical profession to accept its full responsibilities in promoting better world health, brotherhood and peace, adding that "the time has come when medical statesmanship must be used to augment the methods of political diplomacy." Dr. Gunderesen also presented the Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Krusen and the special layman citations to Mrs. Sewell and Dr. Lal. The Shrine Chanters of Oakland, Calif., provided choral numbers during the program.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In addition to Dr. Orr, the new president-elect, the following officers were selected by the House on Thursday:

Dr. W. Linwood Ball of Richmond, Va., vice president; Dr. E. Vincent Askey of Los Angeles, re-elected speaker, and Dr. Norman A. Welch of Boston, vice speaker.

Dr. Warren W. Furey of Chicago was elected for a five year term on the Board of Trustees, succeeding Dr. E. S. Hamilton of Kankakee, Ill. Dr. Raymond M. McKeown of Coos Bay, Ore., was re-elected for a five year term, and Dr. R. B. Robins of Camden, Ark., was named to fill the unexpired term of Dr. F. J. L. Blasingame. Dr. Leonard W. Larson of Bismarck, N. D., was elected chairman of the Board at its organizational meeting after the Thursday elections.

Dr. George A. Woodhouse of Pleasant Hill, Ohio, was renamed to the Judicial Council. Elected to the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals were Dr. Leland S. McKittrick of Brookline, Mass., to succeed himself, and Dr. John V. Bowers of Madison, Wis., to succeed Dr. Victor Johnson of Rochester, Minn.

Dr. R. B. Chrisman, Jr., of Coral Gables, Fla., and Dr. J. F. Burton of Oklahoma City, Okla., were re-elected to the Council on Medical Service. For the same Council, Dr. Russell B. Roth of Erie, Pa., was named to fill the unexpired term of Dr. H. B. Mulholland of Charlottesville, Va., resigned.

Three members were elected to the Council on Constitution and Bylaws: Dr. William Stovall of Madison, Wis., to succeed Dr. Stanley H. Osborn of Hartford, Conn.; Dr. William Hyland of Grand Rapids, Mich., to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Floyd S. Winslow, deceased, of Rochester, N. Y., and Dr. Walter Bornemeier of Chicago, to replace Dr. Furey.

The House approved a Board of Trustees announcement that Miami Beach will replace Chicago as place of the 1960 Annual Meeting, and New York will be the site of the 1961 Annual Meeting. Action was postponed on selection of the city for the 1962 Annual Meeting.

Rising votes of appreciation were given to Dr. Hamilton; Dr. George F. Lull, retiring secretary, and Dr. J. J. Moore, retiring treasurer.

At the Wednesday session of the House the Illinois State Medical Society made another record state society contribution to the American Medical Education Foundation by turning over a check for \$177,500 to Dr. Lull, now foundation president.

F. J. L. BLASINGAME, M.D.

*Executive Vice President
American Medical Association*

Actions of Special Importance by A.M.A. House of Delegates

Basic Medical Rights of American Citizens

"Resolved, That the House of Delegates approve the following principles:

"We, as physicians, cognizant that the American citizen enjoys certain basic rights as his heritage, and that these rights extend to the citizen in his position as a patient, do hereby recognize these basic medical rights:

"1. He should have the right to employ the physician of his choice and should be free to terminate the professional relationship at will, without bureaucratic or governmental domination; and

"2. He should have the right to know that his physician is responsible for all decisions regarding the extent of his medical care, and that these decisions are not dictated, restricted, or controlled by any third party; and further be it

"Resolved, That the House of Delegates request the Board of Trustees and its representatives to publicize these principles as the basis for participation in any program of medical care."

* * *

Indigent Care

"That the American Medical Association request that any funds provided under the Public Assistance provisions of the Social Security Act for medical care of the indigent be administered by a voluntary agency such as Blue Shield on a cost plus basis or by a specific agency established by the medical society of the state in which indigent care is rendered."

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Voluntary Health Agencies

Dealing with problems that have arisen in the raising and distributing of funds since development of the concept of united community effort, the House adopted the following statement offered in the form of amendments from the floor:

"1. That the House of Delegates reiterate its commendation and approval of the principal voluntary health agencies.

"2. That it is the firm belief of the American Medical Association that these agencies should be free to conduct their own programs of research, public and professional education and fund raising in their particular spheres of interest.

"3. That the House of Delegates respectfully requests that the American Medical Research Founda-

*From the House of Delegates of the
California Medical Association*

SOCIALISM

Be It Resolved, That the California Medical Association recognize government financed and administered medical plans as no different from governmental monopolistic operation of any industry; and be it further

Resolved, That the officers of the California Medical Association decline to bind its individual or collective members to any agreement with a bargaining third party, and be it further

Resolved, That the California Medical Association assert its belief in democracy, warn its membership of the deeply entrenched position of power with which all forms of government surround its electorate, and declare its support of intellectual and economic freedom for all men, including physicians.

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This statement of attitude, introduced by Frederic P. Shidler, San Mateo County Medical Society, was adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting in April of this year.

tion take no action which would endanger the constructive activities of the national voluntary health agencies.

"4. That the Board of Trustees continue actively its studies of these perplexing problems looking forward to their ultimate solution."

* * *

Inclusion of Physicians Under Social Security

"WHEREAS, Proposals for the inclusion of self-employed physicians in the Social Security System have been made repeatedly and are now pending before Congress and

"WHEREAS, The matter has been discussed several times before the A.M.A. House of Delegates and its reference committees, yet there remains the necessity of reiterating our position to members of Congress and to the general public that American physicians still strongly oppose being included in the Social Security System; and

"WHEREAS, American physicians always have stood on the principle of security through personal initiative; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association unequivocally opposes the compulsory inclusion of self-employed physicians in the Social Security System."

* * *

Medicare

Resolution No. 1 refers to the repeal of Public Law 569—the Medicare Law. As this law contains a variety of methods of financing health care costs, it is the opinion of the Reference Committee on Legislation and Public Relations that the purposes stated in the second resolve of Resolution No. 1

could be accomplished through modification of the present implementing directives without the necessity for new legislation. Therefore, your reference committee recommends that Resolution No. 1 be not approved but that the action taken by this House of Delegates in New York in 1957 with respect to Resolution 19, which reads in part as follows, be reaffirmed:

"We . . . are recommending that the decision as to the type of contract and whether or not a fee schedule is included in future contract negotiations should be left to individual state determination . . ."

In Memoriam

BRANDON, JOHN J. Died in Piedmont, June 25, 1958, aged 41, of heart disease. Graduate of Indiana University School of Medicine, Bloomington-Indianapolis, 1950. Licensed in California in 1951. Dr. Brandon was a member of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association.

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DAVIS, WALTER WILLIAM. Died in Los Angeles, June 8, 1958, aged 48, of heart disease. Graduate of Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee, 1935. Licensed in California in 1943. Dr. Davis was a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

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KIRK, ALBERT WELLINGTON. Died in Berkeley, July 5, 1958, aged 88. Graduate of College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco, 1900. Licensed in California in 1900. Dr. Kirk was a member of the San Francisco Medical Society.

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LANDIS, CHARLES CALDWELL. Died in Loma Linda, March 10, 1958, aged 75. Graduate of George Washington University School of Medicine, Washington, D. C., 1912. Licensed in California in 1912. Dr. Landis was a member of the Butte-Glenn Medical Society.

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LUMSDEN, ARTHUR GOMEZ. Died in Petaluma, April 30, 1958, aged 75. Graduate of College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco, 1906. Licensed in California in 1909. Dr. Lumsden was a member of the Sonoma County Medical Society.

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NEWTON, WILLIAM C. Died June 6, 1958, aged 84. Graduate of Boston University School of Medicine, Massachusetts, 1896. Licensed in California in 1920. Doctor Newton was a retired member of the San Diego County Medical Society and the California Medical Association, and an associate member of the American Medical Association.

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NICHOLAS, CONSTANTIN Z. Died in Del Mar, June 12, 1958, aged 66, of heart disease. Graduate of the University of Moscow Faculty of Medicine, Russia, 1916. Licensed in Cali-

fornia in 1925. Doctor Nicholas was a member of the San Diego County Medical Society.

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OPPENHEIMER, SALLI. Died in Oakland, June 5, 1958, aged 67. Graduate of the Universität Heidelberg Medizinische Fakultät, Baden, Germany, 1914. Licensed in California in 1941. Doctor Oppenheimer was a member of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association.

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PITKIN, HORACE COLLINS. Died in San Francisco, June 29, 1958, aged 60, of carcinoma of the lung. Graduate of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, N. Y., 1924. Licensed in California in 1928. Doctor Pitkin was a member of the San Francisco Medical Society.

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SOBIN, DAVID J. Died in Los Angeles, June 14, 1958, aged 48, of cerebral hemorrhage. Graduate of Wayne University College of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan, 1937. Licensed in California in 1945. Doctor Sobin was a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

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TAYLOR, RAYMOND G. Died in Los Angeles, June 28, 1958, aged 86. Graduate of University of Southern California School of Medicine, Los Angeles, 1896. Licensed in California in 1897. Dr. Taylor was a retired member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and the California Medical Association, and an associate member of the American Medical Association.

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VON DER LEITH, HAROLD OTTO. Died in Berkeley, June 7, 1958, aged 82. Graduate of Cooper Medical College, San Francisco, 1897. Licensed in California in 1898. Dr. von der Leith was a retired member of the San Francisco Medical Society and the California Medical Association, and an associate member of the American Medical Association.

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WALKER, JOE EDMUND. Died June 29, 1958, aged 57. Graduate of University of California School of Medicine, Berkeley-San Francisco, 1925. Licensed in California in 1925. Dr. Walker was a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.